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loose fragments of rocks that possibly cover the bottom, and examine their lower surfaces. Here he will find many curious and interesting shells, some of them minute; the brittle starfish, several kinds of worms, and above all those elegant sea-slugs, little animals closely allied to the snail, only having no shell. Many other forms will be found in such haunts by careful searching. On these rocky shores the collector should take advantage of the low spring and fall tides, for then a portion of another zone of animal life will be exposed to him, and he will find many novelties. Never leave a stone unturned in such places, for marine animals are proverbially shy, and prefer seclusion. He must also take advantage of the heavy storms that beat upon the coast, and along the beaches after one of these storms he may pick up many rarities. In fact he may find certain species washed up in the greatest profusion, that he will rarely meet with at other times. The long mud-flats will repay him a muddy tramp at low water, for, crawling over the mud, or buried just beneath its surface, he will find certain mollusks and worms peculiar to such places.

One of the richest fields for collecting near cities will be found on the piles of any exposed pier, or bridge. We mean by exposure, a structure that stands in deep water where the ocean has more or less direct access to it, protected at the same time from the heavy wash of the sea by some outlying island or cape. Let him take a small boat, and, armed with a net having a stout wire frame affixed to a pole ten feet long, he may drag up at low tide from the sides of the piles by a slow raking motion, a perfect harvest of sea-anemones, sea-urchins, starfishes, shells, crabs, worms, and a legion of other forms that will keep him busy for some time.

An outfit for a collector is, first of all, a basketful of wide-mouthed bottles, pickle jars will answer the purpose, a pair of forceps, a good pocket lens, unless he carries it in his head, a case-knife to detach certain animals from the rocks; a few little pocket vials will not come amiss. For collecting animals beyond the limits described, the collector must possess a dredge, the simplest form of which is a triangle made of iron; the longest side sharpened on one edge to act as a scraper. To this iron a bag of netting is affixed. Supplied with a good manilla rope, he may dredge to the extent of his line, and the assemblage of animals will be quite unlike those that he has met with in the zones mentioned above.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, *Portland, Me.*, *May* 7.—The rare shell, *Helix multidentata*, before known only by a few specimens, was reported as occurring abundantly in a wood on Cape Elizabeth. The most interesting event of the meeting was the presentation of a Pteropod (*Clione borealis*), a marine animal of the arctic seas, which has been discovered by Mr. C. B. Fuller in large quantities in our harbor. This animal belongs to a division of the Mollusca called Pteropoda, or "Wing-foot," from the swimming appendages which resemble the organs of flight of birds. Only six species are known to occur on the coast from the arctic seas to Georgia. They are most abundant in the extreme northern or southern oceans. Some possess a delicate glassy or horny shell, while Clione is entirely naked, and of a consistency not much greater than that of the common jelly-fish. It is a very singular sight to observe their evolutions in a jar of sea-water. The Clione moves with a deliberate and graceful motion of its wings — almost recalling the action of a dexterous human swimmer. The Limacina, another pteropod observed by Mr. Fuller, and collected with the Clione, uses its wings much more nervously, and gambols about the jar like a miniature and half-fledged robin.

It is not known that the Clione has ever been seen so far to the southward before. Packard reports it as abundant on the coast of Labrador. This is probably the extreme southern limit of the species, and we are no doubt indebted to the persistency of our "cold term" for these fairy-like visitors in our harbor. Is our climate so changing its temperate quality that arctic animals find in our waters a congenial home?

American Association for the Advancement of Science. — The next meeting will be held at Chicago the last of August. It promises to be an unusually interesting meeting, and we hope it will be largely attended. Various excursions by the members are contemplated, of which, however, we have not received precise information in time to insert in this number.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

R. H. F., Mt. Etna, Ind. — The plant you send appears to be the *Lemna*, or Duckweed.

W. V. A., New York. — The solvent for reeling the cocoons of the Cynthia Silk-moth, given by Guèrin Menneville, is: some carbonate of potash in boiling water, with an addition of white soap; no proportions given.—L. T.

E. O., Yellow Springs, O. — You write that "we are enjoying a visitation of the seventeen-year locust. The first perfect insect appeared on May 18th. The ground is full of the larvæ." We would be greatly obliged for branches of the oak showing the mode of laying the eggs, and for alcoholic specimens of the larvæ of different sizes, and of the pupa and adult. We can name a few of the beetles you send now, and will send you the names of the others in a few weeks. 1. *Nebria pallipes*; 3. *Pangus caliginosus*; 4. *Dicælus purpuratus*; 5. *Ochthedromus antiquus*; 13.? *Clivina pustulata*; 16. *Poecilus chalcites*; 18. *Harpalus* near *amputatus* Say; 20. *Oiceoptoma marginata*; 22. *Silpha inequalis*; 24. *Staphylinus villosus*.

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BOOKS RECEIVED.

Quelques Remarques sur la Geographie et les Monuments du Péron. Par E. G. Squier. Paris, 1868. 8vo, pp. 28.

The Butterflies of North America, with Colored Drawings and Descriptions. By Wm. H. Edwards. Philadelphia. Part I. April, 1868. 4to, with five plates, $2.00.

Cosmos. April 18, May 9, 16. Paris.

Land and Water. April 4, 11, 18. London.

The Field. April 25, May 2, 9, 16. London.

Entomologist's Monthly Magazine. June to December, 1866, 1867, January to March, 1868. London.